Appln. No.: 10/686,355; Filed: October 14, 2003 Reply to Non-Final Office Action mailed July 7, 2006

Response dated November 6, 2006

## In the Specification:

Please replace the first paragraph with following amended paragraph:

"This is a continuation of Application Serial No. 08/913,139, filed Feb. 9, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,790,940 which is a national phase filing of the Application No. PCT/DE96/00369, which was filed with the Patent Corporation Treaty on Mar. 1, 1996, and is entitled to priority of the German Patent Application P 195 07 166.2, filed Mar. 1, 1995."